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James Francis Cooke

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THE ETUDE

JANUARY, 1922

Single Copies 25 Cents

VOL. XL, No. 1

Open House

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could keep "Open House" on New Year's day and meet every one of the friends who, by their enthusiasm and loyalty, have contributed such great success to our work. We would like to meet every one of you and shake you by the hand, and thank you for your liberal support through the years. As this is impossible we are making the most of it by writing this hand-shaking editorial. Gracious! we have just been making a little estimate of how long it would take us to greet and shake hands with each ETUDE reader, if all passed through our ETUDE headquarters here in a procession eight hours each day. It would take over four hundred days and then there wouldn't be any ETUDE. Ha! Ha! Nevertheless, we still wish that we could say to you all personally,

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The Moszkowski Tribute

"I cannot tell you how much your altruism touches me." Thus writes M. Philipp in a letter acknowledging the receipt of a draft remitting various contributions which have been received at this office in behalf of his friend, the afflicted Maurice Moszkowski, in Paris.

As the letters have been coming in we have felt a sense of appreciation and gratitude for the magnificent bond that exists between THE ETUDE and its readers. Americans are famous for their generosity, but there have been so many appeals during the last seven years that each new one seems like an added straw to the burden.

However, there was a particular appeal about the case of Moszkowski. Here was a very great genius stricken down by fate and made penniless by the war. Surely the musical people, big and small, would not stand by and permit at this day a repetition of the tragedies of Mozart and Schubert, when out of their impulse they might help. The appeal will never come again, and it may not be needed very long as Moszkowski is reported to be beyond medical skill.

Rudolf Ganz, Director of the St. Louis Orchestra, was fortunate in securing the subscriptions of many at the outstart, but M. Moszkowski's protracted illness required expensive medical attendance and nursing, which made it necessary to make additional appeals. We shall furnish Mr. Ganz with a complete account of moneys directly forwarded to Moszkowski by THE ETUDE, in order that there may be a definite statement in his hands when required. Meanwhile make checks payable to THE ETUDE, marked distinctly "For the Moszkowski Fund."

We were fortunate in securing a number of cards which we printed with a small portrait of Moszkowski, and which were signed by the great composer when his strength permitted. We have a few of these left, and, as long as they last will send one to each person sending one dollar, or more, to the Moszkowski tribute fund. If the number of tributes is greater than the number of cards received, the editor personally agrees to secure the autograph of some other distinguished musician, (pianist, composer, conductor, singer or violinist) in recognition of this gift from some ETUDE reader, for him to keep as a memento. The selection of the artist to sign the card remains with us.

Just play over the *Serenata*, the *Spanish Dances*, the *Grand Valse*, the *Moment Musical*, *Etincelles* or any one of the great numbers of Moszkowski's masterpieces—think what he has given to the Art for all time, then give what you can and God bless you.

The Opera Season

The opera season is now in full swing. The trouble with opera in America is that it does not swing far enough. Let us say that the great opera houses of New York and Chicago hold five thousand auditors at each performance. This admitted, it must be clear that only about 60,000 people a week can see these performances, with every seat sold, or about one-half of one per cent of our great population. That is the reason why THE ETUDE has taken such an interest in the work of Fortune Gallo and his San Carlo Opera company, and other traveling companies which play for protracted seasons in our cities. In this way a great deal of excellent opera gets around our vast country. More than this, seats for your family do not cost the price of a new suit of clothes.

Yet, were it not for the talking machine, only a very small fraction of the music of opera would ever be heard. In a representative book on opera there are one hundred and ninety works described as those commanding present day interest. An opera company attempting to keep in repertoire forty operas in one season is undertaking a very great task. Most of the smaller companies are limited to about a score at the most.

Why don't we have a revival of interest in pianoforte arrangements of the operas? Twenty-five years ago the musical education was not considered complete unless the pupil knew two or three operas. Then came a fad for discarding everything except music specifically written for the piano. What a pity! Some of the old operatic arrangements preserved many delightful melodies which the present generation might learn with profit. What difference does it make if they were originally written for the voice or for the orchestra?

In Europe the demand for simplified piano arrangements of operatic melodies still exists, and is cultivated in some countries. It seems to us that the advent of the talking machine and the opportunity to study these melodies, as the singers sing them, should make the playing of them on the pianoforte even more interesting than ever. The editor has "a lot of fun" in playing piano scores of operas old and new.

Music and the Call of the Wild

UNDOUBTEDLY the greatest inspiration of the masters has been love and nature. Love is a matter of the individual. Nature is open to everybody. Beethoven, Wagner, Schumann, MacDowell, all fell strongly under this appeal. However, nature alone does not make for music without the genius to sense the greatness of the everlasting hills and the mighty waters. If it did Switzerland would be the foremost of musical lands. However, the sensitive composer feels the absence of beautiful natural inspiration at all times. Schumann, when he went to Leipzig, which was somewhat unfortunate in its natural surroundings, did not hesitate to put this into words:

"I arrived here last Thursday quite well if in melancholy mood, and with the feeling of my academic dignity and citizenship, entered for the first time the great, widespread city, into stirring life and the world at large. And now, having been here for some days, I feel quite well if not quite happy, and long with all my heart to be back in the greater peace of home, where shall I find her here? Everything disguised by art—not a valley, not a hill, not a wood where I can abandon myself to my thoughts—no place where I can be alone except my bolted room, with everlasting noise and racket below. This is what makes me dissatisfied."

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The Musician's Breeding

"Why are musicians so terribly ill bred?"

This was the expression of a lady who prided herself upon being in what is indefinitely described as "Society" in one of the large eastern cities. She had just witnessed a dance player at a wedding putting away food with less grace and more speed than an automatic stoker. If the lady had thought for a moment she would have realized that this particular musician was very probably the son of a European peasant, who, doubtless, ate with far less regard for the conventions of table etiquette.

The truth is that musicians of all classes are very likely to be better bred than corresponding workers of different grades of social evolution in corresponding classes. Musicians have refined tendencies and they have in their circles somewhat better opportunities for observing what good breeding means. Indeed, as they ascend the scale they realize more and more that the men and women at the top cannot remain there in communication with educated men and women of good manners unless they are well bred.

What is meant by being well bred? Lord Chesterfield gives a good definition in his two hundredth letter to his son. "Good breeding is the result of much good sense, some good nature, and a little self denial for the sake of others, and with a view to obtain the same indulgence from them."

Really, good breeding is nothing more than a sincere desire to behave in a manner that will not be offensive to any other well bred man. It is based upon consideration for his sensibilities. It is ill bred to eat with one's knife not merely because it is in the mores not to do so, but because it is uncomfortable to see one of one's fellow beings trying to commit *hark kari* on his countenance. It is ill bred to leave one's spoon in one's cup because no one at the table likes to witness his companion putting an eye in jeopardy. It is ill bred to interrupt or distract the attention when others are talking, because thereby agreeable conversation is abolished.

We have been thinking over the musicians we know in different stations in life. We believe that on the whole they are most excellent examples of gentility in the highest sense.

Worn out Musical Brains

DONIZETTI, Schumann, Wolf, MacDowell, Smetana, all passed into the great beyond with their minds veiled from the world in which they had played such important roles. Whatever may have been the verdict of the pathologist it is not improbable that the immense load of brain activity which they forced themselves to carry had much to do with their tragic ends.

The music life is like a mighty current. Its enthusiasts find themselves carried down the stream of their artistic enthusiasm by a force so great that only the most powerful can survive. If the composer is satisfied to wade in calmer waters he knows that his artistic results will be proportionate. It is the mighty struggle, the terrific fight of man with the psychic and cosmic forces of the age in which he is working that produces the great master. Many of our composers have been unwilling or unable to fight the great fight, to make the soul sacrifices which will raise them from the ordinary to the sublime. Others have paid the price but lacking the *Urgevalt*, the original strength, have failed. It is a great existence if you triumph, but a pitiful tragedy if you fail. A few reach the heights before the mind gives out as did Wolf, MacDowell and Schumann. Others survive to old age. Others are cast up on the rocks of misfortune, battered, bleeding and exhausted before the game is half way over. The joy is in the fighting, in the struggle.

Yet, the man who is battling his way in the whirlpool and finds the signs of exhaustion coming upon him is mad unless he stops to rest his mind and gather new strength for the greater struggle to come.

Vanishing Musical Motifs

WHAT a pity that with the conveniences of modern urban life we should sacrifice the color and music that made our cities of yesterday so distinctive and so interesting. The child of tomorrow will open his eyes with wonder when you tell him of the street cries of all manner of vendors. Little is left now but the discordant yawn of the news-boy, the nasal whine of a few old ragmen and the song of the scissors grinder. In days gone by these very cries furnished the composer with motifs of great interest; they formed a literature in itself. Charpentier in *Louise* has attempted to revive the spirit of Paris by introducing them. In Old England, Orlando Gibbons and others turned them into what were known as "Fancies" which were very popular in their day.

Sir Frederick Bridge in an address before the Musical Association of London, gives a partial catalogue of some of the old cries. It is most interesting.

"There were thirteen different cries for fish, eighteen for fruit, eleven for vegetables, thirteen for articles of clothing, fourteen for household articles, fourteen for different kinds of food, nine tradesmen's cries, and six for liquors and herbs. In addition to these there were nineteen tradesmen's songs, begging songs for prisoners and Bedlam, and five watchmen's songs."

A fair idea of the musical interest in America one hundred years ago may be made when we learn that in 1829 it is estimated that pianos valued at \$750,000 were manufactured here in that year.

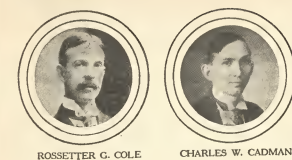
What Vaudeville has Done for Music

Few musicians credit the importance of good music in vaudeville. A third of a century ago vaudeville was known as *Variety*. It not only lacked respectability in most cases, but harbored coarseness and vulgarity. Horrible caricatures of Irish, German, Jewish, Dutch and other alien arrivals upon our shores, objectionable songs, questionable jokes, tawdry acrobats, breakdown dances and a whole atmosphere of crudeness, rowdiness and often broad innuendo made up the program. The reformer came in the person of B. F. Keith, who with his lieutenant E. F. Albee (now the general manager) contributed a very new and enormously successful form of entertainment in which millions of respectable people have, with their families, participated with real delight.

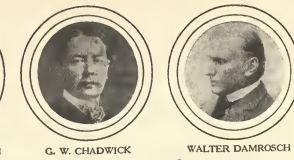
Formerly the Variety show was so odious that it was patronized almost exclusively by those who cared little for their standing in the community. Now the Keith interests celebrate their anniversary week in Washington by having three Presidents, past and present, Taft, Wilson and Harding as their guests at the theatre.

As a part of the new vaudeville scheme it has been one of the great mediums for bringing fine music to the average citizen. Many of the famous singers and players from Calve and Bispham to Carrie Jacobs Bond and Henri Scott have been heard twice a day by thousands who might never have heard them otherwise. Bessie Abbott, Ross Ponselle and Orville Harold, Mr. Harry T. Jordan, manager of the big "million dollar" Keith theatre in Philadelphia once told the writer, "We do not put on important musical acts for missionary reasons, we do it because the public really wants to hear the best music we can get, and it pays us to have the best." It is not surprising, therefore, upon the occasion of the thirty-third anniversary of the Keith enterprises, that a coterie of musicians including Gatti-Casazza, Galli Cucci, Walter Damrosch, John Philip Sousa, and many other notables sent congratulatory telegrams. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have thus been spent for bringing good music to the general public. THE ETUDE gladly adds its congratulations. The more demand there is for good music in vaudeville, the more the managers will respond.

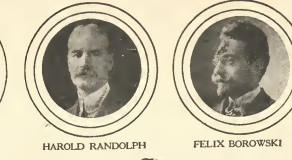
THE ETUDE



ROSSETTER G. COLE



CHARLES W. CADMAN



G. W. CHADWICK

WALTER DAMROSCH

HAROLD RANDOLPH

FELIX BOROWSKI

Would I Take Up Music Again?

A Symposium embracing the opinions of some of America's most Distinguished Composers, Educators and Pianists

GEORGE W. CHADWICK
HAROLD RANDOLPH

FELIX BOROWSKI
WALTER DAMROSCH

CHARLES WAKEFIELD CADMAN
ROSSETTER G. COLE

WALDO S. PRATT
BIRDICE BLYE

GEORGE W. CHADWICK

Composer, Director of the New England Conservatory
Is my opinion, no one who is deficient in a sense of pitch, sense of rhythm, in musical memory or in an enthusiastic love for music should take up the study of it; certainly not with a view of a professional career. Under no circumstances should one study music with a view of teaching it for the purpose of avoiding honest manual labor. Many excellent cooks, landladies, housemaids and nurses have been lost to the world on this account and with disastrous results socially and commercially. The ranks of music teachers are full of young women who would be much better occupied in one of those vocations.

In answer to your last question I would refer you to my oldest living musical friend who was present at the performance of my first orchestral work and was intimately familiar with my early struggles. He is the founder of THE ETUDE and his name is Theodore Presser.

WALTER DAMROSCH

Conductor, New York Symphony.

No one should take up music as a profession unless he has an overmastering desire to do so; unless the love for it fills his heart completely, and unless competent authorities pronounce him to have sufficient talent for this most difficult and most beautiful of all arts.

ROSSETTER G. COLE

Composer-Educator.

If I had as many children as Johann Sebastian had, I would wish to have as many of them study music as my bank account would permit. I would wish them to study music, not to make musicians of them, but mainly for the enrichment of their lives that would come from an intimate and direct acquaintance with the noble and beautiful thoughts of music-literature. For I believe that there is no branch, not excepting literature itself, that can contribute more abundantly and more richly to the wholesome development of the child's emotional life than does music, when rightly approached and studied. Quite apart from any special gift which they might possess, I would wish them to reap the tremendous advantage of this cultural influence. If any of them gave proof of being unusually gifted in creative or interpretative lines I would not object to their becoming professional musicians, though I would never urge anyone to enter the profession unless he could rise above mediocrity, the obstacles to real success are so great. I would prefer a child of mine to be an expert dress-maker or carpenter rather than a mediocre musician, professionally.

"Would I take up music again, were I to start anew?" Most certainly, knowing myself as I do now. Yet, were I to start all over again, I would most earnestly hope that some experience might make me conscious of my ability at a much earlier date in my life than in my present existence. So little conscious was I of the possession of any marked musical ability when I was ready to enter college, that I entered the University of Michigan expecting to be a civil engineer, an expectation that lived, however, only to the end of my Freshman year, after which I elected all the musical courses the University then offered. I did not convince myself that music must be my life-work until I came home from a two years'

These valued opinions were sent in response to the following questions:

Would I Want my Son or my Daughter to Make Music a Career?

Would I Take Up Music if I were Beginning my Work Again?

CHARLES WAKEFIELD CADMAN
Composer.

If I had a son or daughter I would oppose their making music a life profession unless they were exceptionally talented and fitted for this precarious profession, both mentally and temperamentally.

As there are thousands of young men and women now eking out a miserable existence from an economic standpoint, and chafing under the unhappy knowledge that they are musically unsuccessful, I cannot countenance too strongly the advice to avoid music as a profession, unless there be a real inner urge with an adjunct of more than just mere talent. Young students are often misled by false encouragement of ignorant teachers and

period of study abroad. This delay postponed, but did not interfere with my success. My advice to students hesitating on the threshold of a musical career is: Be sure of the amount of your capital before you invest; your musical ability is your capital.

Waldo S. Pratt Educator—Historian

Just now those making the choice of a life-work, with music as a possible career, should remember that, unless there be remarkable intuitive genius, a solid foundation of general education and real culture is indispensable for high success. If those with musical aptitude and aspiration are willing to lay this foundation so broadly that, in need, they could make good in some other vocation, their becoming musicians is fairly certain to be richly worth while for them and for the profession. But if they are not thus willing, they are not likely to rise above the clerical grade anywhere. It is the host of music-workers who know little outside of music, and not much of that except technique, that keeps the profession intellectually and morally weak. Such workers are apt to be mere artisans, handling their art as only a trade.

It is notable that in Europe a large proportion of the productive and influential musicians have what corresponds to our college training and often training besides in law or medicine or engineering or literature. A disciplined and furnished mind is the sword that gives victory to every noble ambition.

Harold Randolph

Virtuoso Pianist, Director of the Peabody Conservatory
If I had a son (or daughter) who possessed the necessary gifts to justify him in taking up music as a profession and he unconsciously wished to do so, I would gladly and proudly wish him "God speed," but I would never advise any one to do it. It has always seemed to me that anyone who needed advice as to the choice of an art as a life work had best take up the thing else. Nothing but a profound conviction justifies such a step.

As to myself, it seems almost like asking a duck if it would not on the whole have preferred being born a chicken. Whether he likes it or not an artist is born for a certain medium and the question of success or failure is besides the mark. In fact, unless he feels that he would rather fail, from a worldly point of view, in his chosen art than "succeed" in something else he has missed his vocation.

Undoubtedly "the choice of a life work is the most serious moment in life" as you say, but its importance rests not so much upon the chances of "success or failure" as the need of choosing something which you can wholeheartedly believe to be worth doing for its own sake—something which you would choose to devote your life entirely apart from considerations of bread and butter.

What is the Best Hand Position?

By Edwin E. Holt

THE "self helper" among piano students is often so bewildered by a mass of contradictory directions regarding certain basic factors of his study, that he finds peculiar solace in the Scriptural affirmative "All men are liars!"

Take, for instance the position of the hand—a matter of prime importance. The student is warned by numerous and undoubted authorities that he can never hope to attain eminence as a pianist unless he holds his hand "perfectly flat," "a little arched," "slightly curved toward the thumb," "inclined slightly toward the little finger," "pointing slightly inward," and one of latest advises him to hold it practically "any old way!"

Bewilderingly simple, isn't it? The question being all or none or if one, which one and why?

The cause of all this maddening mess, is that, very naturally, each method-maker recommends his own hand-position, the position that best suited its structure, and one of the factors that has enabled him to attain his super-human technical dexterity. There was a reason for that position, and there should be a reason for every individual's "normal hand-position."

One or another of the above positions will suit any hand to a nicety, but it is the height of absurdity to think that a long, narrow, super-flexible hand and a short, broad and stiff hand can use the same normal hand-position and attain the same results.

Place, now, your own hand on the piano key-board, and see if you can tell which position suits it best and why? If not, and you are a real self-help student, the sooner you obtain from proper text books or a competent physician a knowledge of the anatomy and functions of the fingers, hands, arms, etc., the sooner you will begin to save hours upon hours of practice time.

One absolutely cannot afford his practice to the best advantage without such knowledge—and it is perfectly easy to obtain it.

Don't Threaten Your Child

By Marjorie Gieyre Lachmund

"If you get this bad lesson today, Mary, I will stop your music!" Thus threatens Mary's Mother.

And what is the result? If Mary wants to continue lessons the threat hanging over her head makes her so nervous that she cannot do herself justice. If she wants to discontinue her music it is a challenge to slight her practice. And if, as in most cases, she does not really know what she wants, it renders her indifferent; she considers it an impending fate which she cannot alter.

How infinitely better to make the child understand that music is as much a part of her education as the regular school course, and put her on her merits to do well by offering some little reward for work well done—a little weekly prize, or a more pretentious one at the end of the season.

Should Grade Teachers Specialize in Music?

By Mary A. Whitfield

A mature little Miss of twelve, in Seventh Grade Grammar School, came to her lesson; and, as she neared the piano, exclaimed:

"Well, we had a music lesson today, and the teacher used the whole hour to explain the value of a dotted note, so we had no time to sing!"

The teacher could have understood the work herself, if an hour was wasted in such explanation. Any question, discussed in concise, clear understanding language, impresses much more strongly.

If public school teachers elect to specialize in music, in departmental work, as in the case mentioned, why should they not approach the subject in the same spirit as they show towards cooking, sewing or any other of the other "specials" now taught? They take special summer courses in everything else; why should the ability to pick out a tune with one finger be considered a sufficient preparation for teaching music in the higher grade?

Supervisors assign the work in music for the teacher to use in each grade. An occasional talk with his co-workers, as to the best manner of presenting the work in their daily practices, might do much to add to the final results from his labors.

THE ETUDE

THE ETUDE

FROM the listener's point of view there are three classes of pianists: (1) those whose playing is positively disagreeable, (2) those whose playing is simply boring, and (3) those whose playing is a real delight. It may, to be sure, be a matter of individual taste as to what a player belongs to the first or third of these classes; since some persons seem to enjoy a belligerent clatter of sounds that make the blood of others run cold in their veins. But in regard to the third class, all are agreed as to the depressing effect of mediocrity. And, unfortunately, this is by far the largest class of the three: through apathy, poor instruction, or sheer failure to comprehend the possibilities of music, legions of piano players have attained no higher goal than to excite the yawns of their auditors.

Yet the many thousands of dollars spent annually for the privilege of listening to piano performers bear witness to the existence of the third class. Moreover, it is to the existence of the object of all piano studies to be included ultimately in this class, it is pertinent to inquire what factors contribute toward piano playing that are at once both interesting and pleasurable.

Certainly, clear technique is an important item. For just as a preacher or an actor must be a bore or a laughing-stock if he does not enunciate clearly, if he stammers, mouths or mispronounces his words, so a player who is untrained and stumbling in his finger-work is therefore unfitted for public performances. Clearness, accuracy, precision, these are elements which reassure the auditors, and leave them free to enjoy the music values.

Yet technique itself is not music; and playing may often at first be handicapped by technical imperfections. Rubinstein, with his prodigious prowess, was notorious for his technical slips, and even the great Liszt, when apologetic upon wrong notes, I vividly recall the experience of two of my pupils at a recital, some years ago.

The one was eminently satisfactory in accuracy of details, but she received only perfunctory applause. Yet technique itself is not music; and playing may often at first be handicapped by technical imperfections. Rubinstein, with his prodigious prowess, was notorious for his technical slips, and even the great Liszt, when apologetic upon wrong notes, I vividly recall the experience of two of my pupils at a recital, some years ago.

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Machinery or Art

This result was but natural, however, for pupil No. 1 was so thoroughly occupied with nicety of technical detail that she neglected the very object of it all—namely, the expression of the music itself. Pupil No. 2, on the other hand, threw herself unreservedly into the spirit of her piece, and, inspired by the nervous tension, played more brilliantly than ever before. A mere series of gymnastics at the keyboard may, as in the case of some virtuosos, appeal to an audience on the same grounds as trapeze acts or skillful juggling; but they do not in any sense constitute music.

It is only, indeed, when the listener's attention is drawn away from the mechanism to the musical thought itself that an artistic result is attained. "He makes me forget the wood and ivory of the keyboard more than any pianist I ever heard" said some one to me, of De Paderewski. To pass out of the realm of the tralaloom of technic music into the realm of poetic fancy, of pianistic artistry, should be the ideal before every piano student.

How can this be done? Simply by subordinating technic to interpretation, and by making everything contribute toward genuine expression. Foremost among the factors that further such expression is *rhythmic accent*. This accent, indeed, is the heart-beat of music, without which music is a dead issue. So, each measure must have its due accent, carefully adjusted to the sentiment, of the piece, but still always underlying and bracing up the structure. Due attention to the regular accent on the first beat, too, serves to make more prominent those unusual or syncopated accents that are introduced for the sake of pungency or variety.

It is by the careful gradation of such accents that each division of the thought is properly punctuated. For in music, as in poetry, each phrase mounts up to its individual climax, after which it either falls gently or breaks off abruptly. If such climaxes are properly understood, the result is as natural as though a stanza of poetry were read in a flat sing-song tone, thus:

Tell me not in mournful numbers
Life is but a dream from the soul
Dead that slumbers and things are
Not what they seem.

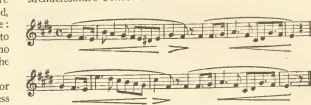
But divide this stanza into four phrases, with the accents on *numbers*, *dream*, *slumbers* and *seem*, and the thought takes on interest and significance.

What Makes Piano Playing Interesting

By CLARENCE G. HAMILTON, M. A.

Professor of Pianoforte Playing at Wellesley College

Few persons of ordinary education would read poetry in the meaningless way outlined above, and yet how many thousands of supposedly intelligent people play with just as little sense of punctuation! Take the melody from Mendelssohn's *Consolations*



Like the stanza of poetry quoted above, this consists of four phrases, which have their climaxes in analogous places; yet how often it is played with little or no suggestion of these emotional waves!

In interpreting a complete composition, there must be not only the onward movement of each phrase to its culminating point, but also, as the phrases succeed each other like the scenes of a moving picture, there should be a constant and general growth in intensity, so that the auditors are led continually to greater emotional heights. Study the traditions of Liszt's playing, and you will discover how he carried his audiences spell-bound from climax to greater climax, until the overwhelming tonal rush at the end brought them to a state of frenzied enthusiasm. Such an exhibition is but a demonstration of the possibilities that lie in that *progressive character* of music which Mr. Tobias Matthay has so ably championed against the older pedagogy, which treated music as a series of *phases*, rather than *time dimensions*. In a recent article he says: "The actual teachings of the old days was as misleading for the poor student as it well could be. Instead of being told to look for the natural movement and growth underlying all musical expression, he was given the supposed explanation that it consisted of 'accented or unaccented notes,'—brick and mortar, dull, lifeless and futile!"

There are other problems, too, which the pianist must face in connection with this progressive development of the musical thought. Unlike the violinist or the singer he cannot devote his entire attention to a single part, but, like the organist, he must somehow simulate a number of instruments, each with its individual traits. So the question of giving each of these parts its distinctive value is a vital one, if they are not to be mingled in a hopeless jumble. Almost always there is some leading part—generally the melody—which should stand out as the chief figure in the picture. Then there are those bass notes

*See *The Etude* for September, 1921

Do People Yawn When You Play?

Or do they look forward eagerly to new musical delights and surprises to the very end?

There are hundreds of proficient players who are unintentional bores.

You may be accurate, you may play with tremendous velocity, you may have the subject of touch "at your fingers' end," you may have any one of a dozen things down to the point of perfection, and still your playing may be deadly dull.

Why?

Prof. Hamilton, who has taught scores of students to play beautifully, may help you immensely in this article.

that furnish the foundation for the harmonic structure, and which often constitute a counter-melody. Again, the background, or accompaniment proper, may itself contain diversely important elements; and, finally, there are subsidiary melodies or thematic fragments which should have their due share in the composite whole. Take, for instance, this passage from Liszt's *Liedstücken*:



Four elements are here involved:

1. The melody, constituting the leading feature.
2. The foundational notes, next in importance.
3. The compact, rhythmic chords of the accompaniment.
4. The broken chords, unifying and blending the background.

And observe that if any one of these factors is given a false value, the whole picture becomes distorted, and constantly a caricature of the desired effect!

Mood and Atmosphere

As another factor, we may mention the *mood* or *atmosphere* of a composition. A Nocturne should voice a totally different mood from a Mazurka, a folk-tune from a salon Fantasy, and so forth. Sometimes, too, a single piece consists of a succession of contrasting moods, as Chopin's *Ballade in A Flat*. The expert pianist will be confined to no one style, but will become master of each mood as it is developed, and will subtly carry his hearers with him, from one emotional stage to another. He will also arrange his programs so that contrasting styles shall follow each other. I once listened to a piano recital that was made up of a succession of ponderous works, all in a minor key. Playing of even extraordinary excellence could not overcome such a handicap! Equally bad, too, would be a program of show, bravura pieces, or a series of lively dances.

Summarizing the points that we have considered, we conclude that important factors which tend to make piano playing interesting are:

1. A competent technique
2. Rhythmic vitality
3. Due attention to the onward sweep of each phrase and to the composition as a whole
4. Regard for the value of each individual part.
5. Emphasis of the proper moods and contrasts in style.

Observing all these points, the pianist must finally possess the tact to "get them across" to his hearers. As I do this, he should bear in mind two principles that are of vital moment.

First, he must be *acutely*, both with himself and with his auditors; for to *insincerely* person can rise to great heights as an artist. Let details and principles be studied at great length; let preparation be as nearly perfect as possible; nevertheless the final test lies in the ability to forget these forethoughts and to become simply the spokesman of the composer. And in doing this the pianist should be so filled with the composer's message that he is inspired to deliver it in its most beautiful and effective form. There is a telepathy between performer and audience which lets the latter into the mental secret of the former. Do we not, when hearing Minnie Jones play at a pupils' recital feel as scared as she is, and long for the final crash of deliverance? What kind of a musical message can she convey when her mind is filled with the awfulness of the audience, the set of her new frock,

MUSIC SCHOOL SETTLEMENTS



Not less parents' wealth, but his own love of music, should enable a child to receive a musical education through a music school settlement, every community should meet the child's need of music and the community need of music.

MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY



Why not have a children's group in the community where and where? The community chorus or orchestra. Interests, desires and delights. The community chorus or orchestra. Interests, desires and delights. The community chorus or orchestra. Interests, desires and delights.

MUSIC IN THE SCHOOL



School training in music develops. Development of music. Development of music. Development of music. Development of music. Development of music. Development of music.

TEACHING MUSIC TO CHILDREN



Music study should be. Not a few notes. Not a few notes. Not a few notes. Not a few notes. Not a few notes. Not a few notes. Not a few notes.

A WIDE-SPREAD MUSICAL CAMPAIGN
We are presenting herewith four of an excellent series of pictures issued in poster and in booklet form by the National Child Welfare Association of 20 Fifth Avenue, New York, as part of a campaign to stimulate greater interest in music for children. The movement has been strongly endorsed

by Josef Hoffman, S. Rachmaninoff, David Bismuth, Percy Grainger, Harold Bauer, Cuvoni and many others in the United States. A part of the campaign is to display the pictures in store windows. This has been done in many cities.

Sevick and Sevek's violin method taught the violin pupil how to study absolute technique systematically, and many of the study ideas that he evolved for the violin are also available for the piano.

"Jede Vier Noten"

For example: if given a certain page of music to study, the average pupil plays it through time after time in the hope that it will improve of itself, the Sevick method would be to play it through at speed, and to observe the places that do not go well, etc. at all. Having picked out the difficult passages, the pupil then commences to dissect them to see what the difficulty really is, and if it is a combination of difficulties, to master them one by one, and then combined. A favorite prescription of Sevek's is: "Jede Vier Noten Hin Und Zurück." That means "every four notes forward and backwards." It is not so unusual to find some pianist who has taken four notes of a passage, then the next four notes, and so on. But to Sevek that was objectionable. He wanted the first four notes, then the four notes starting with the second note, then four notes starting with the third note, and always forwards and then back. In other words if we call the first four notes one, two, three, and four, the order of practice would be: one, two three four, four three two one, first and second notes forward and backwardly, until the four notes can be played more rapidly than the tempo calls for. Then two, three four five, five four three two, and so on to the end of the passage.

Now why should this be especially beneficial? In the first place the pupil will find when he tries it, that to play the four notes backwards with the same fingering, (or rather the reverse fingering) is at first most perplexing. For requiring ten times as much concentration to get the fingers right on the reverse, and that concentration is going to make the fingering so solid, that it would be impossible to take a wrong finger. Eliminate the elements of uncertainty of fingering and a great advance has been made, for the speed is limited until the subconscious mind has learned the fingering so well that no matter what the speed the right finger always takes the right place.

Secondly, the advantage of taking four notes, then four notes starting from the second note, then from the third note, etc., is that one forms a chain every link of which is as strong as the last. Now when one takes four notes, and then four notes starting from the fifth note, etc., the link from four to five will always be weak, because it has not been practiced.

If the passage is exceedingly difficult it is a good plan to practice every two notes forward and back, namely one two, two one, two three, three two, etc. Then take every three notes forward and back, then every four. Then try playing the passage at full speed and it should, to your probable surprise, go very well. Should it, however, not be fluent enough try every five notes backward and forward, then every six, and so forth.

When I was a student in Prague under Sevek, I was initiated into this method of practice on the first variation of the *Humorous Air* of Ernst, and I carried this method of practice so far that I could play backwards the entire variation without any assistance memory nor technique hesitated to respond after this.

This idea is also easily applicable to memorizing. At one time I undertook to memorize the twenty-four études of Paganini. I filled two fat six books, and am technically the last word in violin difficulty. I pondered the question of how to memorize them so that I should have them all memorized at the same time. In other words, I had to find some unusual way to memorize them in order to avoid forgetting part of the études by the time that I had memorized the rest. This was my method!

Practical Memorizing

I first took the first line of each étude for a day's work. If I could not memorize them in one day, I kept it until I could play from memory in one day the first line of each étude. The next day I memorized the second line of each étude, and after memorizing it played the first and second line together. The next day I memorized the third line of each étude and played the second and third lines, and so on until I had gone through all the études in this way. Some études were, of course, shorter than others, so that as soon as I had finished one or more études I would start at the beginning of those and repeat the process of two lines.

Having gone through the études in this way I then took three lines in succession each day, overlapping of course. For example lines one, two and three then lines two three and four, and so on to the end.

Then four lines each day on the same plan of overlapping, so that you see each day, I was really only memorizing one new line and reviewing those done on the last three days.

I would have kept increasing the number of lines, five, six, etc., but found by this time that I had the twenty-four études memorized.

Now to pupils who have difficulties in memorizing this plan is an infallible method. Your unit of practice will vary according to the quickness of your memory, but even if it is only a measure that you can memorize at a time, by overlapping, namely first measure, then second measure, and then joined to first, third measure and join to second, etc., you will surely learn the composition by heart and it will stay.

Sevek was the matter very (rarely) when he said: "If you can play by memory every four notes of a composition in time and tune backwards and forwards, you can surely play the composition." I have tried to indicate above what lines the piano pupil might benefit by contact with the violinist, but the wide pupil will not limit himself to the violinist. Be broad in your musical ideas, and that means forget at times that you are a pianist, and remember that you are a musician. Go to the opera, hear the famous singers, cellists, church choirs, etc.

Patronize Other Arts

The art of piano playing has drawn from all other arts. Chopin's cello player *prelude*, the D flat nocturne in which he meant to imitate the style of the violin, the "chant of the monks" in one of the nocturnes, etc., will all be rendered in a more musically way if you are broad in your tastes and learn, as did that famous pianist, to know of music, as well as of piano playing.

Do not even limit yourself to music. Go to see some pictures and read up on art in general. The arts are all related, and if you will try to absorb the inspiration that some famous painting gives you, you will play better a piece which was written with a similar idea. The greatest thing that the foreign music study had to offer was, aside from a good teacher, and most of the greatest teachers are now in the United States—the contact with other musicians and artists, and the reason for that is that music students do not have more of it here than they have not realized its benefits. The opportunities are here in ever increasing measure.

The violinist is continually under the obligation to the keyboard to let us know what the piano keyboard is so visibly simple the pianist often neglects this very important matter of the automatic adjustment of the hand. If he secures it, it comes to him empirically through a great deal of playing instead of through systematic training. Sevek gave a great deal of attention to these jumps and contractions.

To give one instance of the application of the idea to the keyboard, let us take such an example as a simple study of an octave. Let us suppose that your fingers are over the ordinary five finger position in the key of C. That is, the thumb is over C. Now, just what is a jump of an octave? If the thumb jumps the entire distance there is a passage of the entire hand for one octave. However if the jump is played with the second finger on the upper octave the hand has only moved the distance of seven keys or a seventh. This distance is a difference of one half of an inch. In cultivating automatic playing this is a considerable physical-psychological factor. The use of

HUMOR is often a great aid to the pupil's progress. Do not misunderstand that. There is the use and abuse of humor in music teaching as in other things; but, to children especially, a laugh now and then is as useful as more serious talking.

After well started, a pupil developed the habit of looking too much at the keyboard. She knew her key-board thoroughly, and yet she constantly watched her fingers. Various means of correcting this were tried, but still she said she "could not help looking down."

Realizing that she needed to be impressed with the wrongness of the habit, I asked if she found it necessary to go to the mirror to find her mouth when practicing. This amused her very much. She laughed heartily, the very thing desired. It showed that she had been stirred in-

the other fingers of the hand in a similar manner upon the upper octave make a corresponding difference.

Automatic Playing

In general the development of automatic position playing depends largely upon three different operations.

I. Hand in Five-Finger position moving to other positions.

II. Passing of the Thumb over or under the fingers.

III. Large leaps or jumps.

In violin playing the maker of exercises, realizing how dependent the player is upon absolute accuracy of the fingers in taking different positions, goes about the solution of the problem in a more or less extensive or scientific manner. That is a Sevek will say to himself: "How many different positions of the hand are required to make all the changes necessary in given passages?" In piano playing, this does not seem to be the case. The exercises are collected very largely with the view to making the muscles stronger and the fingers nimble, with no thought of training the brain and nerves, so that the important matter of the automatic adjustment of the hand is taken into consideration. Thus the most used and also the most wonderful part of piano playing is neglected, or at best treated in an unsentimental manner.

Let us take the first principle we have given above. The movement of the hand in five finger position to position to another. I have found that there are twenty-five jumps, or combinations, from one note to each other given notes. To practice these jumps until they become automatic is just as important as the five finger exercises or the scales themselves.

Practical Exercises

The following text exercise will illustrate this. Place the hand in five finger position with the thumb over middle C. Now with this as the foundation position strike the octave of C above with the fifth finger and return to the foundation position. Repeat this four times. Then go through the same exercise playing the upper C with the fourth finger. Repeat four times. Then take the same exercise with the third finger playing the upper C, continue with the second finger and ten with the thumb taking the upper C.

Now make the hand up to octave above with the thumb over the upper C. Reverse the exercise by jumping the thumb down to strike middle C, then the first finger, then the second finger, then the third finger, then the fourth finger then the fifth finger. You ever perceive that with every jump the hand is making a different measurement.

After having accomplished this in the scale of C repeat it in every other key.

The exercises should be done with the metronome at 40 with one beat to a note, then gradually accelerated as automatic playing is developed.

In all cases they should be done with the eyes shut. The training should be purely a muscular one. In the matter of passing the thumb under and over there are already in existence more or less exhaustive exercises. Long jumps can be treated in something of the way in which we have treated the short jump of the octave. The *Exercises for Developing Accuracy* by Gustave Becker have a number of exercises in long jumps.

These exercises indicate an infinite variety of possible exercises which the ambitious player will be only too eager to work out systematically.

Humor and Music Teaching

By Richard Trustham

When she came for the next lesson she said that she had been thinking and laughing all the week about trying to find her mouth. She commenced her lesson and, from first to last, scarcely looked at the keys.

When she commented on overcoming the habit, she said she "did not know she had not been looking down." This was an unconscious or indirect correction through a humorous remark.

All that we need to get the best results, it is necessary that the teacher and pupil be friendly. Yet many children fear their teacher to a certain extent, and simply because they fear to laugh or joke in his presence. Let your pupils know that you are human and "nice," but do not overstep the mark of propriety.

THE ETUDE

The turn is one of those ornaments that was born in the age of filigree music in Italy—that age which has not been and probably never will be surpassed in production of really enchanting almost intoxicating melody—melody created for the sheer beauty of melody itself. In that age was brought into existence practically all the "embellishments" now used for the variation and ornamentation of melodies, certainly all those that are employed to give to melody lightness and grace.

Thus it is in the "Language of Song" for the roots, if not the entire structure, of the names applied to these graces. And a little study of the ancestry of these words will be more use than mere amusement of the inquisitive faculty of human kind.

In the Italian we find the word "gruppò" paralleling in meaning our own English "group." Again "etto" added to an Italian word is an ending indicating diminution of the force of the word. Thus "gruppetto" (the musical small group) became the name recognized by the musical world for this graceful ornament, to distinguish it from the more elaborate roulades of scales and arpeggios in vogue. In the English speaking world this term is now almost displaced by the word "turn," in reality very apt, as the ornament truly does turn around its principal note.

Of all the embellishments, none is more graceful and refined than the turn, usually executed by the musical notes, it has the quality of lifting and carrying one tone of the melody on to the next with an elegance not quite approached by the other. So for a time let us see what can be learned about it that will help us to use it at its greatest value.

The "Turn" proper consists of four tones. First is the principal or home tone. Above this is the "upper auxiliary tone." This is usually the diatonic or regular tone of the key to which the principal note belongs. Any variation from this must be indicated by a proper character placed above the sign of the turn; thus, character placed above the sign of the turn, the "lower auxiliary tone." This is almost invariably a half-step auxiliary tone. This is almost invariably a half-step auxiliary tone. This is almost invariably a half-step auxiliary tone.

When the principal tone is but a half-ton below the principal tone. This, if not diatonic, is usually indicated by a proper accidental under the sign of the turn. Even when the sign is wanting, one is commonly safe in supplying it and using the half-step. An exception to this is when the upper auxiliary is but a half-ton above the principal tone. In this case the ear must step above the principal tone. If both auxiliary tones are but a half-step distant from the principal tone, they produce a diminished third. If executed very rapidly, the ear does not readily assimilate these tones, especially if the tones are very quickly, it usually is better not to alter the lower auxiliary tone; if it is done more deliberately, generally it is better to alter the lower tone to a half step below the principal one. Another exception is when the turn immediately followed by a diatonic tone on the same degree as the lower auxiliary tone, when ordinarily it is better not to alter the pitch of this auxiliary. The shifting of tonality from the altered to the diatonic tonality of this note will be assimilated comfortably by the ear only if the time of the turn is very

deliberate. A good example of this, and one probably known to most of our readers than any other, occurs in the Principal Subject of the "Air Suisse" of Clementi's Sonata, Op. 36, No. 5.

Ex. 1 Allegro moderato Air Suisse Clementi

Ex. 2 Adagio Sonata in C Haydn

The Story of the Turn

Practical Advice upon How to Play Such Embellishments

By EDWARD ELLSWORTH HIPSHERR

ments" or "embellishments." Now but a second thought is necessary to impress upon you how necessary is the most careful execution of them. They are there for but one purpose—to beautify the melody. They are the "trimmings." Have you never passed on the street a dress of which the accessories were so out of harmony that they made it little less than hideous? And yet the materials of the dress and its simple outlines were elegant, possibly extremely so. Just so it is with a melody. Its ornaments must be so smoothly done, so exquisitely, so carefully in keeping with the melody, that they enhance rather than detract from its beauty. Otherwise, they would be much better omitted.

The turn may enter in a number of ways. It may introduce the principal note. It may come at the close of the note. And, as already intimated, the speed with which it must be executed has much to do with its contour.

The sign of the turn placed over a note indicates that it will introduce the note. In this case the turn will begin exactly on the beat of the principal note; its first half will be exactly with any notes which accompany the principal one, regardless of their being on the same staff or another; and it will be executed after one of the following modes.

If the principal note is of convenient length—for instance a quarter or even an eighth note in a slow or moderate movement—or if it should be a long note in a very quick movement; and if it is desired that this note shall have particular emphasis (as in Ex. 2a), then the turn will consist of three very rapid notes, the first of which will be the principal note, and the last as possible from the principal note on which the stress will fall, and will be executed lightly as a triplet.

Ex. 2a Adagio Sonata in C Haydn

This sort of turn is falling into disuse among modern composers. The classic writers, having only the spinet, harpsichord and earliest forms of piano, all of which were very deficient in their dynamic attack of tone, used it often for the purpose of emphasis on a certain important tone. With our modern instruments we are able to secure all this stress we may desire, by other and more direct means.

When the principal note happens to be quite short, then its entire time will be given to the turn which will consist of either four or five notes very even in time. Ordinarily it is better not to alter the pitch of this auxiliary. The shifting of tonality from the altered to the diatonic tonality of this note will be assimilated comfortably by the ear only if the time of the turn is very deliberate. A good example of this, and one probably known to most of our readers than any other, occurs in the Principal Subject of the "Air Suisse" of Clementi's Sonata, Op. 36, No. 5.

Ex. 3 Allegro con brio Sonata in C Haydn

Ex. 4a Scherzo in Bb Schubert

Ex. 4b Evening Star Wagner

When falling at the end of a rather long note, even as in the Wagner quotation, just how near the close it shall come and how rapidly it shall be executed will depend much on the nature of the music, and here the artistic judgment of the performer must be exercised.

An exception appears in this form when the principal note happens to be followed by one on the same pitch. Then the turn becomes a triplet consisting of the upper auxiliary, the principal tone and the lower auxiliary, the following note taking the place of the one usually completing the turn.

Ex. 5 Sonata in C Haydn

Most sparkling of all, loved by the light-hearted Mozart and inherited by Beethoven for his music in the brighter humor, is the turn following a dotted note and leading on to one on a different pitch and contemplating the rhythm becomes completely changed. The principal note is taken for half the time represented by it alone; the first three notes of the turn form a triplet equaling in time the principal note just executed; and the last note of the turn has just the time represented by the dot, thus balancing in time the note which is to follow it, thus these two notes making a pair of two tones even in length.

Ex. 6 Andante Sonata in C Mozart

Sometimes the notation is misleading, and even the best composers have been at times careless in this matter. In the *Adagio* of Mozart's *Sonata in F* we find

Purcell and Royalty

By Giulio Di Conti

Two his short life Henry Purcell had many interesting events crowded.

As a boy he was a member of the choir of the Chapel Royal. When but twelve years of age he was chosen as the cleverest of the choir boys to compose a piece as a present for the king's birthday.

When he was twenty-two a most unusual thing happened. Dr. John Blow, organist of Westminster Abbey, recognizing the talent of the younger man, resigned so that Purcell might have the position. Two years later he was appointed also organist of the Chapel Royal.

In the two positions he had many honors. He was successfully the court organist to Charles II, James II, and, when the latter was dethroned, to William and Mary.

He composed special music for all important state occasions. When the King returned to London for his holidays he would be welcomed by an ode for full chorus, with solos and orchestra; and Purcell would lead the performance, seated at the harpsichord, as was then the custom. In Westminster Abbey he played at two Coronations, and at the funeral of Queen Mary.

"Any ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" might be paraphrased to read "an ounce of preparation is worth a pound of repair."

One Musical Minute with Goethe

To me it is with Bach as if the eternal harmonies discoursed with one another.

The effect of good music is not caused by its novelty. On the contrary, it strikes us more, the more we are with it.

I sing as do the merry birds
That in the greenwood singeth,
The song, up-welling from the heart,
Its own reward still bringeth.

A man should bear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God implanted in the human soul.

The more of pains the artist takes,
The more with diligence he strives,
So much the more this purpose thrives.
Then practice every day; you'll see
What the result of this will be.
For this is every aim attained,
What's hard at first with ease is gained,
Until at length your very hand
Itself appears to understand.

THE Boy of Tunis has a brass band composed of twenty cornets, trumpets, trombones, ophicleides, etc., all made in Europe. The peculiarity of the band is that it plays solely in unisons and octaves the native melodies to which the Bey is accustomed.

After Business Hours

TO THE EDITOR: I owe this notice everything for encouraging me to go on with my music. When I told the folks at the office I was planning to study nights they all sneered at me. Never mind, I kept at it, using the Standard Graded Course and the little book when you need the way Guide to Piano Teachers. This helped me pick out what I thought I would like to study. A young lady friend showed me several things, and last month I made arrangements to begin to take lessons. He seemed surprised when I told him that I had begun most everything up to Grade IV by reading *The Editor* and following the directions in *The Teacher's Guide*. I have always been a little shy in speaking, but now when I go out evenings I find that my friends want me to play. I have been told I have made a different person of me. Sometimes I am happy and at other times I am sad. I have been told I am sometimes a little bit of a trouble maker. I tell everybody to buy *The Editor*.
G. M. S. Scranton, Pa.

The Musical Scrap Book

Anything and Everything as Long as it is Instructive and Interesting

A Few Remarks by a Middle-Aged Conservatory Piano

By I. Scherzovsky

Gus Wanz! here comes the janitor again to pull up the shades and start another day.

I wonder whether he has waked up that Schiway in the next room or that little Mason and Hamlin up-stairs.

Tut, there goes that Ivers and Pond upright across the hall. That is that little Jewish boy from down town. He comes in to practice on his way to business. I've got my own admiration for a fellow that will get here at half past seven in the morning. Wait a moment, Jakey, you're playing that Czerny study wrong—hold up, don't forget that C# in the bass. Keep at it, you have the great secret—work, work, work, no wonder your folks succeed.

Ah, nine o'clock already. Here comes Professor Allegroff. We have been together for years, Professor, haven't we? Why, I wonder, when you when you had that little studio down on the avenue, when your name was Peter Smith. Remember how discouraged you used to get? How you used to put your head down on my chony forehead and talk to yourself—how you wondered when under the sun you would ever get enough pupils to make it pay? I didn't have to work very hard in those days.

Then, you got that prize which enabled you to go to Europe and study. My, what a happy fellow you were. You lost Peter Smith in Dresden or Vienna, and you came back Petrovitch Allegroff. Then you gave tea to fat society ladies who insisted on putting succors all over my back. One actually spilled some cream down my neck and you had to call in Dr. Tooner the next day. What a time you had to keep your old friends from calling you Peter Smith!

My! what a pounding you gave me when you came back. My poor head ached for a week. Let's see, it was the List E Minor *Polonaise*, wasn't it? I shall never forget those first chords, and how you punched me right in the eye when you came to the end. However, I've forgotten it and have forgiven you.

Here comes little Sasic Snifkins. Don't make a face at her, Peter (I always call you Peter to myself). Don't make a face at her, Peter. Of course, she has limited capacity, but you know that as well as anyone when you took her. You knew that her father was going to insist upon the *Flower Song* and the *Fifth Nocturne*. You've gotten yourself in an artistic hole, and you must get yourself out of it. Good gracious! what is the child talking about? *Monastery Bell*? Ye Gods! *Monastery Bell*? For five years in Madam Martin's studio I had my ribs tickled with *Monastery Bells* five times a week. I began to feel like a monk myself. Ah, that's right, tell her that!

Monster Musical Undertakings

ATTEMPTS at enormous musical effects often follow wars. The reader is no doubt familiar with the extravagantly large choruses organized by Berlioz. These however were small projected by Mehul after the French revolution. Mehul's plan was to have a chorus of 300,000

What Benjamin Franklin Thought of Singers who Mumble their Words

Benjamin Franklin had a life long interest in music. In addition to inventing the Armonica, revolving musical glasses for which Mozart wrote compositions, Franklin also is said to have played upon the harp, the guitar, and the violin. In a long letter upon musical subjects written about 1765 to his brother Peter at Newport, Franklin adds the following interesting postscript:—

P. S. I might have mentioned here, that among the defects in common speech, that are assumed as beauties in modern singing, I have observed one, which I have seen often all the rougher parts of words that were to distinguish them from one another, so that you can hear nothing but an other than you would from its tone, and the addition of music to make more, that addition seems now to be the only way, by which the human voice, thus was first made to imitate a good voice, and to be half, but when they became fashionable, though in musical terms we have a natural hair dress to look like the wig."

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

How to Play the Pointed Staccato

TO THE EDITOR: Your interesting article of the present daily paper, which I have read, has been a most useful one to me. I take exception to what is marked with a point: In his "fortnightly" the wrist staccato being marked with a point in all my practice and teaching experience, I have never heard of the point in finger staccato. And I was told in this country ever saw Dr. William Mason. In his *Touch and Pedaling* in the continuous scale movement which he mentions to be taken with the wrist, the notes are pointed. Whereas, in the *Two Finger* staccato, the ending notes of the scale are two notes are *staccato*. I have been taught the dot over a note denotes that the thumb is *staccato* from the finger. We meet with the dotted note in every composition. It is very easy to drive up the finger and meet the thumb. If we had to drive on the wrist it would take more time and force. It is inadvisable to keep the wrist ready to meet it in readiness for its subsequent movement. The dotted staccato almost always occurs at the end of a phrase. How awkward it would be in this instance to raise the wrist, then break the sequence, and destroying the effect we wish to produce. And the sound is anything but pleasant. If one uses the swelling motion of the finger at the end of a phrase the effect is instant, and terminating.

Yes, I agree with that, too! The metronome is good for use with the scales. Most students take me for a race track when it comes to scales, and the first thing you know their fingers are tumbling over each other to get ahead and ruining everything. The metronome is like the rein on a race horse. It prevents runaway. Goodbye, Hurac, glad to see you getting along so finely.

Phew! Here comes Imogene van Peltah. She has gone away beyond Chopin, Schumann, Moszkowski or Rachmaninoff. She told the Professor at the last lesson that she thought Debussy was a "back number." She won't play any thing but the very latest things of Hummel. How can I start.

Murder, listen to that! Do they call that music? Oh, I must have a case of appendicitis. Hand me the smelling salts. I'm fainting. This futuristic stuff will be the hospital at one. I'd rather be on the ash heap than stand this torture.

What a Jongleur Had to Do

THE accomplishments of the Troubadour were numerous. Musical history tells us that they were the poet singers of the days of chivalry, sometimes warriors, sometimes wits, sometimes lords of castles and knights, and sometimes wandering minstrels to suppress the instinctive *vaudeville* of man. Girard de Calais in a contemporary poem tells us that the Troubadour was followed by his jongleurs, who in addition to singing the poems of the Troubadour were supposed to "be able to play well on the drums and the cymbals; to throw apples in the air and catch them skillfully on the point of a knife; to imitate the nightingale's song; simulate an attack upon the castle; jump through four hoops at a time; play the clyde and the mandora; handle the minstrel and guitar; play the harp and set the fire going to brighten the tone of the psalter." In other words the Troubadour and his jongleur were a man vaudeville show.

THE ETUDE

HOME THOUGHTS

REVERIE

CARL MOTER

In the style of a song without words, with broadly sustained harmonies. Grade 4.
Andante con espressione N.M. #72

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ON THE MEXICAN WATERS

BARCAROLLE

WALLACE A. JOHNSON, Op. 60

In the popular Spanish-American rhythm (*Habanera*), of which Tosti's *La Paloma* is perhaps the best example. Do not play too fast.
Grade 4.

Moderato con grazioso M.M. ♩ = 69

Handwritten musical score for 'On the Mexican Waters' by Wallace A. Johnson. The score is in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major, and consists of 69 measures. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is 'Moderato con grazioso' with a metronome marking of 69. The score includes various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mf*, and *f*, and articulations like *rit.* and *a tempo*. The piece concludes with a *Fine* marking.

THE ETUDE

THE ETUDE
TRIO

Più mosso 3/4

Handwritten musical score for 'The Village Fair' by George Tompkins. The score is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major, and consists of 108 measures. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is 'Più mosso' with a metronome marking of 108. The score includes various dynamics such as *mp*, *p*, *mf*, and *ff*, and articulations like *rit.* and *a tempo*. The piece concludes with a *Fine* marking.

A country dance, in the old-fashioned manner. Grade 3.

THE VILLAGE FAIR

GEORGE TOMPKINS

Tempo di Gavotte M.M. ♩ = 108

Handwritten musical score for 'The Village Fair' by George Tompkins. The score is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major, and consists of 108 measures. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is 'Tempo di Gavotte' with a metronome marking of 108. The score includes various dynamics such as *mp*, *p*, *mf*, and *ff*, and articulations like *rit.* and *a tempo*. The piece concludes with a *Fine* marking.

ALLA MAZURKA

THE ETUDE
A. NEMEROWSKY Op. 39, No. 3

A fine example of the idealized mazurka rhythm. A certain freedom of tempo is desirable but the force of the rhythm must never be lost. The *glissando* is best executed with the nail of the third finger, reinforced if necessary by the thumb. Grade 5.

Allegretto M.M. ♩ = 126

mp
rapido
p con espressione
Più mosso
glissando
D.C. al Fine

PETITE SCÈNE DE BALLET

THE ETUDE

A lighter composition of one of the most accomplished modern masters; having all the elegance of a delicate mosaic. Grade 4.

EDOUARD SCHÜTT

Tempo di Valse non troppo moto M.M. ♩ = 52

mp con grazia
poco marcato
espr.
mf leggiero
leggero
poco rit.
a tempo
dim.
espr.
mf leggiero
dim.
rit.
a tempo
Fine
mp cantabile
espr.
poco rit.
poco espressivo
dolce
pp
poco espressivo
p
cresc.
espressivo
a tempo
calando
poco rit.
p a tempo
espr.
D.C.

NORWEGIAN BRIDAL PROCESSION

THE ETUDE

So symphonic in character is this popular number that, as realized by the composer himself, it gains much in the duet transcription.

Alla Marcia M.M. ♩ = 152

SECONDO

E. GRIEG

pp
mp tre corde
mf
f
cresc.
ff
p
f
f
1 dim. 1
ppp una corda
cresc. poco a poco tre corde

THE ETUDE

NORWEGIAN BRIDAL PROCESSION

PRIMO

E. GRIEG

Alla Marcia M.M. ♩ = 152

1 2 3 p
mp tre corde sf
f
molto leggiero e marcato mf
cresc. ff p
f
ppp una corda dim. pp
cresc. poco a poco tre corde f

Musical score for the Second Piano part of "The Etude". The score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "ff e marcato". The score includes several measures with fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) and dynamic markings like *più f*, *sempre più f*, *sostenuto*, *dim*, *sempre*, *p*, *pp*, *una corda al Fine*, *morendo*, and *ppp*.

Musical score for the First Piano part of "The Etude". The score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "ff e marcato". The score includes several measures with fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8) and dynamic markings like *più f*, *sempre più f*, *sostenuto*, *mp dim. sempre*, *una corda al Fine*, and *ppp*.

CONCERT WALTZ

A preparation for *bravura* playing, not difficult of execution but requiring a flexible arm and wrist. Grade 5.
Con moto M.M. ♩ = 152 to 168

R. DOLES, Op. 7

THE ETUDE

THE ETUDE

IN A HURRY

GEO. L. SPAULDING

May be played as a *polka*, *march* or *galop*, depending upon the rate of speed.
Allegretto M.M. ♩ = 108 to 144

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A. GARLAND

A taking little march movement, useful as a study in rhythm and in steadiness of pace. The dotted rhythm must be exact: always thus: $\text{♩} \cdot \text{♩}$ never $\text{♩} \cdot \text{♩}$. Grade 2½.

Moderato M.M. = 108

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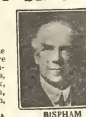
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A study in *legato* and in pedaling. When properly played the effect should be that of an organ and harp combined. Grade 4
Andante moderato M. M. = 69

FRANK P. ATHERTON, Op. 198

22
WALTZ OF THE FLOWERS
"FLOUNDER SUITE"

from the "NUTCRACKER SUITE"

P. I. TSCHAIKOWSKY

The principal theme, extracted from the famous waltz movement in one of Tchaikowsky's most popular orchestral suites. To be played in languorous, swaying style. Grade 5.

Tempo di Valse M.M. $\frac{3}{4}$ = 54

1 Vals

Tempo di Valse M. 2. - 54
dolce cantando

The musical score is written for piano and consists of ten staves. Each staff has a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The piece begins with a piano (p) dynamic and a 'dolce cantando' instruction. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p', 'mp', 'mf', 'f', and 'dolce'. The piece is in 3/4 time and features a mix of chords and melodic lines. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p', 'mp', 'mf', 'f', and 'dolce'. The piece is in 3/4 time and features a mix of chords and melodic lines. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p', 'mp', 'mf', 'f', and 'dolce'. The piece is in 3/4 time and features a mix of chords and melodic lines.

THE ETUDE

PLAYFUL RONDO

A *rondo* in a semi-classic style; use as a finger and rhythm study. The F major section will require considerable independence. Grade 2½.

FREDERICK A. WILLIAMS, Op. 103, No. 1

Allegro M.M. ♩ = 120

Allegro M.M. = 120

p

f

Fine

a tempo

rit.

f

D.C.

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DREAM FACES

THE ETUDE

W. BERWALD

A song without words in the manner of a baritone melody followed by a soprano and baritone duet, ending in a strong climax. Grade 3½.

Andante cantabile M.M. ♩ = 72

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GONDOLIERA

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H. REINHOLD, Op. 39, No. 19

Allegretto vivace M.M. ♩ = 100

THE ETUDE

JOLLY HOME COMING

E. SÖCHTING

A vigorous polka or march movement, full of the holiday spirit. Grade 2½.

Allegretto giocoso M.M. ♩ = 108

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SPRINGTIME DANCE

THE ETUDE
Upon each golden gem: F FLAXINGTON HARKER,
And when they bow'd their heads so shy Op. 28, No. 2
I laugh'd, and thought they danced for joy. J. Clari

From a new set, *Scenes of Springtime*. This number is to be played in the style of a modern *Gavotte*, Grade 3.

Allegretto scherzando M.M. ♩ = 108

Can Pedal

cresc.

ff

dim.

Fine

cresc.

dim.

p S. al C

LULLABY

A graceful and characteristic number by an American writer. The chromatic harmonies of the E major section, beginning at the fifth measure must be studied out carefully. Grade 3.

Andante cantabile M.M. ♩ = 54

THEODORE WARD

p

pp

F. fine

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THE ETUDE

poco più mosso

mf

rit.

stringendo

a tempo

rit.

stringendo

a tempo

D.C.

OZIDA

DANSE ORIENTALE

A study in color, contrasting the parallel minor and major keys, with a strumming oriental bass Grade 3.

BERT R. ANTHONY

Rather slow M.M. ♩ = 96

In a mysterious manner.

f

dim.

p

pp

pp

pp

acomp. stacc.

f

pp

p

Last time to Coda

f

dim.

p

f

f

f

dim.

p

CODA

pp

very softly

ppp

pp

pp

acomp. staccato

dim.

p

D.C.

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BERCEUSE

"SLUMBER ON, BABY DEAR"

LOUIS M. GOTTSCHALK, Op. 47

This is a slightly condensed version of Gottschalk's own piano transcription of his beautiful "Cradle Song" Grade 4.

Andantino M.M. $\text{♩} = 96$ marcato il canto ma *p*

pp *legato*

ben legato

morendo *ppp*

CAPRICE GROTESQUE

"POP GOES THE WEASEL"

CARL V. LACHMUND

A lively *encore* number, all in the "first position"; introducing a popular old-fashioned tune.

VIOLIN *Moderato*

PIANO *f sf* *mf* *f brillante*

Allegro *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *f*

Allegro *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *f* *brillante*

Allegro *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *f* *brillante*

animato *f* *accel. al fine* *cresc.* *pizz.* *arco*

animato *f* *accel. al fine* *cresc.* *pizz.* *arco*

FINALE

THE ETUDE

Registration: Gt. to 16th
Sw. Full
Ped. *ff* to Gt.

A brilliant postlude for festival or recital use, serving to display the "full organ".

Allegro moderato M.M. = 108

ERNEST H. SHEPPARD

MANUAL

PEDAL

Reduce Sw. & Gt. to Diapasons
Sw.

Gt.

add Gt.

add Reeds

Sw.

Gt.

D.C.

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THE ETUDE

WE SHALL NEVER PART AGAIN

Words and Music by
WALTER ROLFE

In ballad style, with an alluring refrain. Destined to become popular.

Andante moderato

mp

The sun is in the west, The birds have sought their nest, But still I can-not rest, Thinking of you.
I of-ten won-der dear, Why I'm so lone-ly here, Why should I ev-er doubt A heart so true.

mp

cresc. *mf* *rall.*

The time it seems so long, Since last I heard your song, And I am so for-lorn And lone-ly too.
I know that you'll re-turn, That love's bright star will burn, And nev-er more I'll yearn This life-time through.

cresc. *mf* *rall.*

REFRAIN

mp

I long for you a-lone dear, Ev-er more for you; For the love-ly smile dear, That lights your eyes so blue, And

mp

rall. *f* *rall.* *mp*

when the moon is shin-ing Bright-ly through the glen- Prom-ise when we meet, dear, We shall nev-er part a-gain.

* This refrain may also be sung as a duet, the second voice taking the part in small notes.
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Also published as a piano solo, for violin and piano etc.

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GOLDEN HOURS AS THEY ARE

ROBERT HUNTINGTON TERRY

JANE CUSHING TYLER
Broadly melodious and with a tender sentiment.
Moderato con espress.

In life's straight course we've set
It may last, not the sorrow

run, my dear,
crowd my path,
Tho oft the clouds blot out the sun—
The peace and rest seem yet a far—
Of cher-ish'd hopes and plans which seem'd so near,
Still
Thy tears de-part when, in your eyes I see The

REFRAIN

in your eyes I see life just be-gun,
precious golden hours as they are.
Af-ter the Springtime, with its winsome smile and tears,
Af-ter the Summer's wasted
hours—
I, Af-ter the Au-tum'n cloud-ed hopes and fears—
Af-ter the Win-ter's iron-en flow'rs
look in-to my springs of shin-ing gray—
Then my wea-ry night's turn'd to day—
Your eyes, dear heart, so shed their light—
I hoped that when next he had the
good fortune of meeting "his dear friend,"
he might hear a better account of his
health, and wished him good-day. When
he had gone, Rossini's companion asked
him why he had told so many fibs, for
he appeared to be in the best of health.
"So I am," said he, "but the old man

far
On the gold-en hours as they are.

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Musical Jokes

By Francesco Berger

We all think pleasantly of dear old Papa Haydn. Of his "Surprise Symphony" with its fortissimo crash in the midst of pianissimo, intended to awaken his dozing audience. And his other one, in which the orchestral players leave the platform, one by one, each taking his instrument with him, after extinguishing his light. We also recall with a smile, how, when still a youth, he committed the enormity of cutting off the pigtail of a brother chorister, though this practical joke had tragic consequences for him.

In the early half of last century a favorite joke with capable musicians was to compose a Piece of music in imitation of some celebrated Composer's manner. Variations were written and published in the style of A, B, or C, and very clever parodies they were. But the fashion for this sort of thing, appealing only to those who were acquainted with the originals, died a natural death, and nobody regretted its decease.

It is recorded of that wizard of the key-board Liszt, how, on a certain occasion, for the amusement of his friends, he mimicked the manner of Chopin so accurately, that they were deceived into believing it was the great Pole himself who had played.

The movements labelled "Scherzo" which we meet with in the larger works of the great masters owe their title to the Italian language, in which the word stands for "a joke." That many a scherzo is anything but a joke for the performer is the experience of a good many. The music too of a goodly number of scherzos is far more serious than the title suggests. There is not much to laugh at in the "Scherzo" of Beethoven's "Ninth," and Schumann's attempt at being funny in his "Fischings-schwanz" is but a poor joke. But if the word is not taken too literally, the title embraces a large number of absolute masterpieces.

When thinking of celebrated musicians who loved a joke, the name of Rossini naturally occurs to us, for he was as fond of one as of his table. Here is an instance. Walking one day with a friend in Paris he met Meyerbeer, who was his only formidable rival at the time, though the two were always courteous to one another. The German, hat in hand, enquired most anxiously after the Italian's health. "Alas," said Rossini "I am suffering from complete loss of appetite, and when I manage to eat I cannot digest. My lumbago gives me no peace, my heart is weak, and I have difficulty in breathing. My sight is failing, and my memory is going." Meyerbeer expressed himself as deeply grieved, and hoped that when next he had the good fortune of meeting "his dear friend," he might hear a better account of his health, and wished him good-day. When he had gone, Rossini's companion asked him why he had told so many fibs, for he appeared to be in the best of health. "So I am," said he, "but the old man

looked so unhappy that I felt impelled to say something to cheer him."

Too High for the Dancer

It is Berlioz who tells of a famous dancer who she declared at rehearsal she could not dance her great pas seul if the music were played in A. It was too high for her. "You shall have it in C!" exclaimed the obliging Conductor, and, whispering to his orchestra not to make any transposition, the piece was gone through again in its original key, to the complete satisfaction of the lady. She was profuse in her thanks, and invited the astute man to supper.

When I was a boy a fashion prevailed for orchestras to play what were called "Quodlibets." They were potpourris of popular tunes, so contrived that one dovetailed into the next after a few bars. Only such tunes could be utilized as had some rhythmic or melodic similarity. For instance: the opening bars of Mozart's *Non più andrai* merged easily into the *Druid's* march from Bellini's *Norma*, or the early bars in the *Finale* of Beethoven's first Symphony (in C) into the "Finale" of Diabelli's *Pianoforte* was an ingenious contrivance, and demanded on the part of the arranger a large acquaintance with widely separated materials, the jumble of tunes from far-removed sources thus making a humorous effect. It was not exactly "high Art" but it was a merry prank and quite harmless.

Of stories attributed to distinguished Soloists, who would have their joke, the number is endless. And some of their jokes are not free from a spice of satire. Here is one. At a party given by a *noirceur* *riche* lady, when an incompetent but pretentious pianist had played, the hostess asked that really great artist he thought of her *protégé*. "I am sorry I was not here when he sang" said he. "But he is not a singer!" remarked the lady, "he is a great pianist and he has just played!" "Ah, mille pardons," persisted the obtuse man. "I did not know it was a pianist who was playing; I thought you were having your piano tuned!"

Even the most good-natured, or the most modest, have sometimes permitted themselves a joke, with a concealed sting. Thus: Rubinstein on being asked why that thought of a Trio by Bergel, replied that he only lasted twelve minutes. Brahms having consented to hear a young Composer play "his latest piece" had no greater compliment to offer than "Where do you purchase your music-paper?" And Rosenthal, after hearing a new Opera by a young aspirant observed "that he liked into the first act, but after that the Composer's memory seemed to have failed him."

From the MONTHLY Musical Record.
(London.)

Touch In Old and New Pianos

By M. A. Hackney

Our present-day pianos have a depth and richness of tone far exceeding those of Beethoven's time, but in gaining that something had to be sacrificed in the matter of lightness of touch.

An interesting comparison has been drawn between a piano made by a certain eminent firm in the year 1817, and one made by the same firm a few years ago,

showing the amount of force necessary to operate the keys:

Lowest C Middle C Highest C
1817, 2½ oz. 2½ oz. 1½ oz.
Recent 4 oz. 2½ oz. 2½ oz.

The brilliant and rapid passages in Czerny's *School of Velocity* or in Mozart's *Concertos*, were, without doubt, much easier to play on the pianos of their own date than on our modern instruments.

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PIANOS

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FIVE FOOT
COLONIAL GRAND

Requiring but little more floor space than an upright it offers advantages in action touch and tone-sustainment usually found only in large grands. 500 American Educational Institutions and nearly 70,000 discriminating homes now use Ivers & Pond Pianos.

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Wherever in the United States we have no dealer, we ship direct from the factory. Liberal allowance for old pianos in exchange. Attractive easy payment plans. Write us to-day.

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TO read a hundred books on voice training would doubtless convince an outsider that the whole matter is a "Comedy of Errors." The different angles from which it is viewed and the number and variety of discoveries that have been made would lead him to believe that the subject is far too complex and overwhelming for the average human mind. But to the insider who still retains the open-minded enthusiasm of the student, it is always interesting. Every writer has his bias, his pet theory, his hobby. Each one has discovered certain things which he believes to be inherent and fundamental. Sometimes one idea dominates the entire system, making it dangerously too heavy. The field of voice training is thickly strewn with hobbies that have been ridden to death. A hobby in training is emphasizing one phase, or idea of it, to the practical exclusion of all others. For example: to base it entirely upon a certain way of managing the breath, or a fixed position of the larynx, a particular register theory, a fantastic notion of placing the tone or extending the compass. That such thinking is illogical and foolish is saying. But by way of compensation for these we occasionally find one whose thinking is clear and logical, who has a sense of value and proportion, who knows not only how to take the voice apart, but what is far better, how to put it together. But we should be grateful to all those who have been brave enough to put their ideas in permanent form, and submit them to the judgment of a public not particularly noted for its generosity. They stimulate thought.

Another impression gained from this wide reading is, that in no branch of the human uplift does sound judgment and a riotous imagination seem more closely associated. A scientific attitude of imagination is legitimate, but when the process ignores facts its logical value is lost. From this reading one is also convinced that many people teach better than they write. When they are giving a lesson they instinctively use their musical judgment, but the moment they begin to write they feel the necessity of being brief and profound. They at once forget the simple truths of voice training and become learned and diffuse. There seems to be a general opinion that if the simplicity of voice culture is admitted there is nothing to talk about—a condition that in a short time would wreck the social structure.

The Vocal Mechanism

It seems difficult for many writers to keep their fingers off vocal mechanism, so to speak, and it must be said that much that is written about mechanism and action in voice production is altogether imaginative. Things which never happened and could not possibly happen are alleged to take place in tone production. It is difficult to talk about beautiful tone which is the aim and end of all legitimate voice teaching, but it is easy for most people to talk about how it should be made. A majority of people, at least, feel that if they but knew how to produce a tone their problem would be solved for all time. But this is by no means the most important thing to learn. For I hold that it is not possible for any one to give directions as to how to hold the lips, tongue, lower jaw and larynx with sufficient accuracy that a good tone will inevitably result. Unless such instruction is governed by the right tone concept there is not one chance in a thousand of its producing the pure singing tone.

Any voice will produce an almost endless variety of tone qualities. The question is, which one of these qualities do we wish to produce? Here physiology comes in to give us a clue, which is as different from physiology as mind is from matter. The starting point, the basis of all voice training is beautiful tone. How to produce it is the second step in the process.

The Singers' Etude

Edited Monthly by Noted Specialists

Editor for January D. A. Clippinger

Theory and Practice in the Art of Singing

Vocal Vagaries

The attempt to develop the sense of beautiful tone by mechanical means is responsible for numerous vagaries in the way of directions and suggestions that will not bear the light of critical analysis. Words are coined, phrases are juggled in a way that may sound impressive, even poetic at times, but which have only an imaginative relation to the matter under discussion.

In looseness of expression the breath comes in for more than its share. There is a constant confusion of breath and sound waves. The scientific teachers tell us that we must vocalize so that a candle held immediately in front of the mouth will not flicker. I readily admit that that would be good vocalization, considerably better than most of us do. But when they tell us to direct the breath to a certain point on the hard or soft palate, or to divide the column of breath, I am forced to believe that they are confusing breath with sound waves. The voice, that is, sound waves, travel away from the throat at the rate of eleven hundred feet, or, per second, but the breath does not move more than an inch from the singer's face. The fact is that the breath in the process of creating sound waves has its force completely destroyed and is not directed anywhere. Sound waves may be reflected, focussed or directed to a certain point, but not breath. They are terms "sing on the breath" and "let the voice float away on the breath" are figures of speech, more or less poetic, and may be helpful suggestions, but they have no foundation in fact when a thousand feet while the breath travels perhaps an inch.

Registers

The theory of register—the voice, head voice, and their production, as discussed by various writers, are as different as the theories of Ptolemy and Copernicus.

If we could eliminate everything above the top of the larynx the problem of registers would be much simplified. We should then see that what we call different registers are caused by a different length and thickness of vibrating tissue. The camera has revealed this numerous times in actual tone production. The difficulty here lies in confusing what takes place in the vocal cords with that which takes place in the cavities above.

The voice approximates the piano in that as the pitch rises a shorter and lighter string is used to produce it. The voice can no more produce its entire scale with one length and thickness of string than the piano can. A restriction of this fact would revolutionize some vocal methods.

Why, then, are the terms chest voice and head voice used? To make this clear let us consider for a moment the vibrations. The vibrating body will cause anything in its immediate neighborhood that vibrates at the same rate to respond. This applies alike to a body or a cavity. I recall trying for weeks to locate a rattle in a piano and then accidentally discover-

ed that it was not in the piano but in a window immediately back of it, which vibrated in sympathy with the sound of a tuning fork may be increased by holding it in front of the opening of a resonating tube having the same pitch. The vocal cords produce pitch, but the power is greatly augmented and the quality governed largely by the sympathetic vibration of the vocal cavities. But primarily a register means a certain length and thickness of vibrating tissue. In the lower part of the compass the pharynx and mouth act as resonators. In the upper part of the compass the head cavities vibrate more perfectly in sympathy, hence the term head voice. That the head voice is produced by sending breath up into the head cavities is absurd. When the tuning fork is held in front of the opening of a resonating tube no additional air is forced into it, but the air that is already there it made to vibrate. The same thing occurs when the sensation of vibration is felt in the head while singing a high tone. It is the air that is already in the body that is vibrating, not breath passing through. The point to remember is that there can be no pure head tone unless it is produced with a mechanism sufficiently light that it can be done without effort. This does not mean that the upper tones will lack power. It is quite possible to produce full ringing tones in the upper part of the compass with a mechanism so light and free that the singer is scarcely conscious of having a throat.

Those who are much wiser than Solomon and insist that there is no such thing as head voice and force the thick mechanism up as far as it is physically possible are responsible for the thick, unsteady, unsympathetic high tones we so often hear.

Attack

The vocal cords and vocal cavities are often confused when discussing the attack. Now attack occurs at the point where sound waves begin, namely, the vocal cords, and nowhere else. There are three ways of attacking, that is, starting a tone. Two of them are wrong. If the vocal cords are tightly adjusted before the breath is applied the tone will begin with a sudden shock which I call the stroke of the glottis. This method of attack is not only disagreeable to a refined ear, but it irritates the vocal cords and in time produces chronic catarrh. Any case of laryngitis is due to this improper use of the voice.

If the breath is applied before the vocal cords are ready, there is a waste of breath and the disagreeable sound of its escape.

The perfect attack is when the vocal cords are ready and the sympathetic air breath is applied. This produces an attack which is clean, definite, musical, does not offend the ear or irritate the vocal cords. In this perfect attack there is no waste of breath and no restriction in the vocal cords. It is impossible to de-

scribe it with absolute accuracy, for a tone is something to hear and cannot be put on paper, but it is of supreme importance and must be worked out under the ear of the teacher.

Each of these three methods of attack will produce a different sensation in the vocal cavities, but to speak of attacking the tone in the head, between the eyes, etc. is a loose and misleading use of terms. Beginning rarely or never have we a perfect attack. They either start the tone with a stroke of the glottis, or what is more common, a waste of breath followed by a tone altogether lacking in resonance. Further, the majority of beginners, owing to fear and an uncertain sense of pitch, feel for the tone. The favorite form of attack seems to be to start with a grace note a minor third below the tone which is pitched. The perfect tone can never be produced in this way. When the singer attacks the tone exactly on the pitch he invariably sings a better tone than when he does not.

Sensations

How is the beginner to tell when his tone is good and when it is not? The unpalatable fact is that he cannot tell. Does any one suppose that a beginner has a perfect tone ideal or concept? If he does let him readjust his estimate of possible success, or let the teacher tell him. The beginner usually knows what he likes, but this may be a hindrance to his progress. What the student likes only reveals his taste at that particular time and place to be a considerable distance away from perfection. If he be awake and alert it will be different next morning. If the student had perfect ideals he would not need to be told that he made no progress in his teaching himself. The office of the teacher is to help the student to perfect his ideals, and these ideals are matters of the mind, not of the body. The teacher, this obvious fact to remember is that there can be no pure head tone unless it is produced with a mechanism sufficiently light that it can be done without effort. This does not mean that the upper tones will lack power. It is quite possible to produce full ringing tones in the upper part of the compass with a mechanism so light and free that the singer is scarcely conscious of having a throat.

Those who are much wiser than Solomon and insist that there is no such thing as head voice and force the thick mechanism up as far as it is physically possible are responsible for the thick, unsteady, unsympathetic high tones we so often hear.

The vocal cords and vocal cavities are often confused when discussing the attack. Now attack occurs at the point where sound waves begin, namely, the vocal cords, and nowhere else. There are three ways of attacking, that is, starting a tone. Two of them are wrong. If the vocal cords are tightly adjusted before the breath is applied the tone will begin with a sudden shock which I call the stroke of the glottis. This method of attack is not only disagreeable to a refined ear, but it irritates the vocal cords and in time produces chronic catarrh. Any case of laryngitis is due to this improper use of the voice.

If the breath is applied before the vocal cords are ready, there is a waste of breath and the disagreeable sound of its escape.

The perfect attack is when the vocal cords are ready and the sympathetic air breath is applied. This produces an attack which is clean, definite, musical, does not offend the ear or irritate the vocal cords. In this perfect attack there is no waste of breath and no restriction in the vocal cords. It is impossible to de-

scribe it with absolute accuracy, for a tone is something to hear and cannot be put on paper, but it is of supreme importance and must be worked out under the ear of the teacher.

Each of these three methods of attack will produce a different sensation in the vocal cavities, but to speak of attacking the tone in the head, between the eyes, etc. is a loose and misleading use of terms. Beginning rarely or never have we a perfect attack. They either start the tone with a stroke of the glottis, or what is more common, a waste of breath followed by a tone altogether lacking in resonance. Further, the majority of beginners, owing to fear and an uncertain sense of pitch, feel for the tone. The favorite form of attack seems to be to start with a grace note a minor third below the tone which is pitched. The perfect tone can never be produced in this way. When the singer attacks the tone exactly on the pitch he invariably sings a better tone than when he does not.

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he will be wise to do all of his practice under the ear of his teacher. The wisdom of this is apparent when we see how rapidly a student improves with daily lessons. The usual way of studying singing is by no means ideal. With one or two half hours a week with the teacher and the other hundred and sixty-seven given to a variety of things, it is strange that progress is not so rapid and so certain. No matter how hard the teacher may

McCormack's Early "Bows"

Told by Himself

"To sing was second nature to me by the time I was fourteen. I sang eternally—wherever and whenever I could—even during that period when my voice was changing. I realize that this will bring from experts expressions of surprise. Opinion has it that such a practice is dangerous to the voice, but it never seemed to injure mine. I would be singing, in my tenor soprano, when the tone would 'turn over' and sound a masculine timbre; a sort of 'mixed' tone, as it were. Then the soprano quality would creep back into the voice, and the pharynx, until the next morning, would be sore and swollen. I was forced, or sung with muscular constriction, damage no doubt would have been wrought. As events proved, I bridged the critical part of that period of my vocal development; in a few months the voice settled into the beginnings of the tenor I am now.

"My first paid engagement materialized in my third year in College. Father Hynes had arranged to give two concerts, the proceeds to be given to the temperance cause. I was asked to be the soloist. How would you like to sing at those concerts, John?"

"The world thereupon assumed majestic proportions, with John McCormack conspicuous in the midst. I was to receive for my services, the impressive sum of four shillings.

"Where were demands for encores which I was glad enough to grant.

"At a Voice Trial"

By Juliette Bonham

So many young student-singers, of limited means, come to New York each year, under the impression that they will be able to earn a little pocket-money without interfering with their studies, and that one of the best and quickest ways of doing this is to enlist in the chorus of a Broadway operetta.

While the writer does not personally approve of the chorus as a means to that end, still the fact remains that many of our best singers began in just that way, and acquired invaluable experience and an excellent stage-technique from such an association. Nevertheless, a great many of the young students who apply for this work fail to secure it because of their ignorance of the needs of musical comedy and operetta.

A few pointers will materially assist the amateur, in this work, with a more favorable result to his next audition.

First of all, *don't give grand opera!* It merely irritates the "judges" and stamps you as an amateur. Sing the lightest, most attractive little song you know, and sing it in English, paying particular attention to your diction.

Many conductors prefer to hear your scales, in which case you must remember to sing full scale, as chorus singers are judged by the quantity of their voices rather than the quality. A light voice,

and the conclusion found me in a haze of happiness which did not lift till Maggie, the college cook, pushed through those congregated about her to add her congratulations.

"I saw her coming, her benignant face beaming and one hand outstretched. 'And did you like my singing, really?' 'Sure, Johnny, darlin', but what did you want to be off your education for by singing in them furin languages?' She meant to be kind, dear old Maggie, and yet that question was like a stab in my side. I laughed it off. I had sung nothing as yet in English; but if she had not understood my words, there must have been others. 'This I cogitated as I lay between the sheets and wrestled mentally with the possible consequences if I proved unequal to conquering what must be a defective enunciation. The words of a song are its soul and must be heard. If the poet's message is to be comprehended."

"Something, apparently, was amiss. An intelligible word or two might be con- ditioned; but to have everything I had essayed to convey to my listeners fall upon Maggie's ears as any possible language foreign to her learning—that was a slap in the face, and far more humiliating. But the lesson was worth learning; and set as it is and still am. Never again do I wish such an experience as Maggie gave me. It disturbs one's pride."

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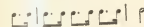
JUNIOR ETUDE

CONDUCTED BY ELIZABETH A. GEST

Beethoven Minuet in C.



How many of you can play, or at least have heard, Beethoven's Minuet in G? Probably all of you have heard it and a great number can play it. But when you play it, or hear it played, do you listen to it, or just hear it? You know there is a difference between listening and hearing, for you hear whatever is within "earshot," as the saying goes, but you only listen to the things to which you pay attention. The next time you hear this minuet, listen to it. You have had enough ear training to know that it is written in a major key. It is triple time, moderate tempo, with a double note melody of a happy character. The prevailing rhythm is



The middle section is somewhat faster, and more of a "contrapuntal" nature. (Look that word up if you have forgotten the meaning of it.) Notice how the upper melody right hand part is used in canon form in the lower melody left hand part.

After this middle section the first part of the piece is repeated, which you will remember is frequently the case, and this pattern of composition is called "three-part song form"; first part, contrasting part, and return of first part.

The minuet was originally a slow and dignified dance, but this piece was not intended for dancing.

Beethoven, you remember, lived in Germany from 1778 to 1828. Look him up in your musical history, then play this piece, or have some one play it for you, and see how many more things you can find out about it.

Playing Correctly

Do you play well or just correctly? In the first place, do you know the difference? If you play correctly you make no mistakes, your time and rhythm are good, you strike no wrong keys, follow the expression marks a little bit, do not blur with your pedal, your phrasing is fairly good, but something is lacking. People really do not care to listen to your playing because it is uninteresting. That little electric spark of inspiration not turned on. You play correctly, but nothing else. If you play well, you do all these things too, but you do more. That little electric spark is turned on and people enjoy hearing you play. Think about it, listen to the playing of other people, and notice for yourself whether the spark is turned on or not; then listen to your own playing, carefully, and critically, and do not play with the spark turned off.

Resolutions for the New Season

Do not wait until June first to make your musical resolutions.

You will find plenty of other things to make them about them. It is better to keep the musical ones "all in a bunch" and make them now. Put them in a special pigeon hole in your brain and file them for reference whenever you need them.

First. Practice more regularly this year.

Second. Practice a little longer this year.

(Note these two are not the same). Third. Always be on time for your lesson.

Four. Always bring all the music your teacher expects you to bring.

(Do not say you could not find something). Five. Always have clean hands when you take your lesson.

(This does not mean that they are to be clean sometime during the day).

Six. Take better care of your music this year.

Seven. Try not to miss even one lesson unless sick in bed.

Eight. Memorize all of your pieces.

Nine. Try to get far ahead of your friends this year.

Ten. Learn some little thing about the composer of each piece.

A Little Band Player

By C. Howard Schofield

Have you ever listened to a piano player and wondered how he plays pieces that a whole brass-band plays, or an orchestra? Have you ever wondered what made the conductor so important?

Now the next time you sit down to a piano imagine yourself a band or orchestra—your mind the conductor, while your fingers are the band of players. Your left hand furnishes the bass players—those fellows with the big brass horns, who play the rum-tum-dum or accents; while your right hand is the flute, trumpet, etc., which play the melody or singing part.

Remember your mind is the conductor and that without using it your band players are helpless and cannot play the right

notes at the right time. Carefully watch a band and you will notice that all of the players do not play all of the time. So it is with your fingers. When you play scales imagine each hand men taking his turn at making some sound, and if some piece calls for a sustained note keep your little band player at it while the others are playing.

To keep these little men in practice so they will always be ready and capable at your command, it is very necessary to play scales and other exercises; and all hands practice too.

You will with diligent practice, be able to make your band players do most anything so that listeners will admire your ability as conductor of your own ten-men band.

The Flat and Sharp Families

By Abbie Llewellyn Snoddy

SHARPS.
When at the first of any piece, A little Sharp I see,
I know that it is Mr. F.
Who lends that family.

Then C and G in turn appear,
And D is number four.
While A and E and B come next.
I'm glad there are no more.



THE FLATS.

The chief and leader of the Flats,
Is gallant Mr. B.
His wife, who stands next on the staff,
Is pleasant Madame E.
The eldest of their children dear
Is A, and next comes D.
While close beside are G and C
And lastly F, you see.



The Importance of Good Rhythm

(Prize Winner.)

RHYTHM is the very foundation of our musical system. Man has rhythm in his body; and doubtless from the earliest times man has clapped and "beat time" with hands and feet, and swayed his body, which was the origin of the ancient religious dances.

The Indians made all sorts of interesting rhythms to amuse themselves; and when they beat their rhythms on wood or dried skins they were merely adopting for themselves one of the very oldest of instruments—the drum.

When music is played in perfect rhythm it is strong in its appeal. When a dance is played you feel like dancing. If it is a march, you feel like marching, and if it is more perfect the rhythm, the stronger this appeal.

Rhythm is the physical side of music.
Eileen Murray (Age 13),
Minnesota.

Honorable Mention for Compositions

Victoria Eisenberg, Margaret Nelson,
Dorothy L. Buckley, Virginia Greener,
Lois M. Fiedler, Elizabeth Moore, Vernon A. Hammond, Herbert Schueller.
A symphony concert is blissful to me,
With music the theatre's brimming;
Though I sit way up
On a little hard seat,
My soul can dive in and go swimming.
—Evening Bulletin.

Jan. 1. 1922

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